

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 107201

R 280635Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8966

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR JA EG KU

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE SPEAKER MAEO VISIT EGYPT AND KUWAIT

1. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCED DEC 26 THAT SPEAKER SHIGESABURO MAEO PLANS TO VISIT MIDDLE EAST JAN 10-17. MAEO PLANS TO SPEND THREE DAYS IN CAIRO BEGINNING JAN 11 IN RESPONSE TO INVITATION EXTENDED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER HAFEZ BADAWI NOV 29, AND TWO DAYS IN KUWAIT TO RETURN JULY VISIT TO JAPAN BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER ALGUNAYIM. MAEO THUS BECOMES FIRST INCUMBENT LOWER HOUSE SPEAKER EVER TO VISIT ARAB NATION.

2. LOWER HOUSE MEMBERS TOSHIKI KAIFU AND NOBORU MINOWA OF RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND TSURUO YAMAGUCHI OF OPPOSITION JAPAN SOCIALIST PARTY ALSO PLAN TO ACCOMPANY SPEAKER.

3. VIST, PLANNED BEFORE RECENT RELAXATION OF OIL SQUEEZE ON JAPAN, IS DESIGNED TO REINFORCE GOOD WILL GENERATED BY MIKI TRIP AND TO DEMONSTRATE NON-PARTISAN NATURE OF JAPAN'S DESIRE TO

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IMPROVE LONG NEGLECTED RELATIONS WITH ARAB COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH

EGYPTIANS HAVE ANNOUNCED ONLY THAT SPEAKER WOULD CONFER WITH
TOP LEADERS, HOPES ARE HIGH HERE THAT MAEO WOULD ALSO CONFER
WITH PRESIDENT SADAT.

4. MAEO RESIGNED FROM LDP TO PRESENT NON-PARTISAN IMAGE WHEN
HE ASSUMED SPEAKERSHIP TO HELP RESOLVE PARLIMENTARY CRISIS IN
MAY THIS YEAR. MAEO IS SENIOR MEMBER OF LDP FACTION NOW LED
BY FOREIGN MINISTER MASAYOSHI OHIRA, TO WHOM HE YIELDED
LEADERSHIP FOR PERSONAL REASONS INCLUDING HEALTH IN 1971.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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